



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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SUBJECT: 2ND Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting regarding 9
VAC 25-110 General Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES)
Permit for Domestic Sewage Discharges of Less Than or Equal to 1,000 Gallons
per Day
TO: TAC Members
FROM: George Cosby, Regulatory Affairs
DATE: December 10, 2009

A TAC meeting was held on December 7, 2009 at DEQ Central Office. The meeting began at 9:00 am. The TAC members and others attending the meeting were:

Amy Ewing	Virginia Department of Game and Island Fisheries (VDGIF)
Cindy Kane	U. S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)
John Aulbach	Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
Kevin Yost	VDH
Mason Allen	VDH
Eleanore Daub	DEQ-CO
Fred Cunningham	DEQ-CO
Burton Tuxford	DEQ-CO
George Cosby	DEQ-CO
Jeremy Kazio	DEQ-PRO
Melinda Woodruff	DEQ-TRO by Telephone
Susan Edwards	DEQ-BRRO by Telephone
Clairise Shaheen	DEQ-SWRO by Telephone
Susan Oakes	DEQ-NVRO by Telephone
Brandon Kiracofe	DEQ-VRO by Telephone

Comments and items presented at the meeting were as follows:

1. The TAC members indicated that the general permit (GP) increase in flow rate above 1,000 gallons per day (GPD) would allow coverage of hotels, schools, restaurants and small apartments. Concerns were raised on chlorination of water to a dry ditch and the effect on aquatic species. The treatment operations should be used based on the increase in the discharge to the receiving waters. TAC members suggested large dischargers above 1,000 GPD should have a T&E review prior to being issued a general permit.

2. Burton Tuxford, DEQ stated a revision of the GP regulation would be presented to John Aulbach of VDH for review to see if it is line with the VDH regulation. The TAC members asked if DEQ could remove the chlorine requirements from the general permit and replace it with alternative disinfection such as ultra-violet disinfection. The use of alternative disinfection would aid endangered species found in small streams. VDH advised that turbidity maybe an issue when using ultra-violet disinfection.
3. The TAC members requested if there was a tracking system currently used by VDH or DEQ for locating discharges; that could also be used by other agencies such as USFWS. Also are the systems and data being reviewed for existing discharges? DEQ and VDH do not have a tracking system available to other agencies.
4. VDH advised TAC members that DEQ should not reissue general permits (GPs) to dischargers that have received violation notices from VDH until the issues have been resolved. DEQ staff stated its GPs require compliance with other agency regulations before DEQ can reissue the GP as stated in 9VAC25-110-60.B. DEQ requires notification from VDH of the violation notice. VDH advised TAC members that they are not made aware when there is a general permit change of ownership. VDH suggested that DEQ not allow the permittee to do his own maintenance because VDH requires a Class operator for operation and maintenance. VDH stated that they are concerned with maintenance rather than monitoring of these types of facilities.
5. TAC members suggested that DEQ locate GP discharges by latitude and longitude from the registration statement or request Regional Offices to locate them when updating CEDS.
6. TAC members requested additional guidance on T&E and reviewing T&E waters as part of coverage for new discharges. Cindy Kane and Amy Ewing have been reviewing T&E issues for individual permits for the last two years. Their concerns were chlorinated effluents going to low flow streams, secondary limits, no ammonia limits, no operator and requirements for chlorine monitoring are not clear. A request was made to see chlorine levels, and VDH stated that there is no real way to see chlorine levels.
7. Revisions in DEQ water quality standards (WQS) - The new bacteria WQS are expressed as a geometric mean (for *E.coli* in freshwater and enterococci in saltwater – no more fecal coliform criteria) calculated with 4 weekly samples for the calendar month. The single sample max has been rewritten for use in water quality assessments and beach closure decisions. However, with the refocus on maintenance of these systems, rather than the annual or quarterly sampling (which doesn't really reflect how well the system is operating on a day to day basis), perhaps we can just leave the sampling for bacteria as is (single sample max of 235/100ml 1/year) with the assumption that it is meeting the geometric mean as long as the system is well maintained and operating correctly. DEQ will verify if any other WQS revisions will effect the VDH regulations besides the bacteria related revisions.

8. The TAC members were made aware that the Department of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) will be implementing a laboratory accreditation program over the next few years. Effective January 1, 2012 laboratory analysis for DEQ Air, Waste, and Water programs will need to come from DCLS certified laboratory. (This includes laboratory analysis used for DMR reporting.) Commercial laboratories were required to submit their application for accreditation by July 1, 2009; noncommercial facilities applications were due by September 29, 2009.
9. TAC members decided to cancel the January 11, 2009 meeting and reschedule the TAC meeting for February 16, 2009 at 1:00 PM

Items presented at TAC meeting are as follows:

1. 2ND TAC Meeting Agenda – Domestic Sewage General Permit
2. 12VAC5-640 – Alternative Discharging Sewage Treatment Regulations for Individual Single Family Dwellings

I wish to thank the TAC members and others for their continued service on the TAC.